MONTANA RURAL WATER SYSTEMS, INC.

925 7th Ave. S.
Great Falls, MT 59405
Phone (406) 454-1151

EXHIBIT NO. 7
DATE 1.17.11
BILL NO. Sec. C.

2011 Legislative Report
From July 2009 – December 2010

John W. Camden
MRWS Trainer/Rule Specialist

Technical Assistance

Forty-nine (49) systems were provided technical assistance to meet regulatory compliance with their Lead & Copper violations, Surface Water Treatment Rule, Consumer Confident Report, and Total Coliform violations. Some of these systems were under DEQ/PWS Enforcement actions such as: **(So. Chouteau Water & Sewer District, Brady County Water District, Town of Kevin, and Carter/Chouteau Water District).**

Training Sessions

Small system group training was provided for ground and surface water treatment plants. Training topics included chemicals, total coliforms, chlorine monitoring, disinfection by-products, new regulations, and state monitoring reports. This also includes educational exam prep training for new operators. Some of this training was one-on-one.

Emergencies

City of Boulder – Water Storage Tank Break-in.
City of Malta – Water Storage Tank Break-in.

Rate Structures

Rate structure meetings – provided rate structure data in setting rates to pay for system upgrades, O&M, and depreciation costs.

Montana Rural Water Systems Annual Conference

Over 1000 attendees and 300 systems are represented at each year's conference. This is the largest water/wastewater conference in Montana and the Pacific NW.

H2O- News -4 –You

3 newsletter publications were provided to over 800 operators in Montana.

Off-site technical assistance

Received over 100 phone calls which provided assistance to operators and engineers throughout Montana.

Future Projects

Annual Rural Water Conference – February 2011
Newsletters – (H2O-News-4-You)
Continue with Training Sessions & Technical Assistance

Montana State Legislature

2011 Session

Exhibit 1

This exhibit is a booklet which can not be scanned, therefore only the front cover/table of content and 10 pages have been scanned to aid in your research.

The original exhibits are on file at the Montana Historical Society and may be viewed there.

Montana Historical Society Archives
225 N. Roberts
Helena MT 59620-1201

2011 Legislative Scanner Susie Hamilton

H2O-NEWS-4-YOU

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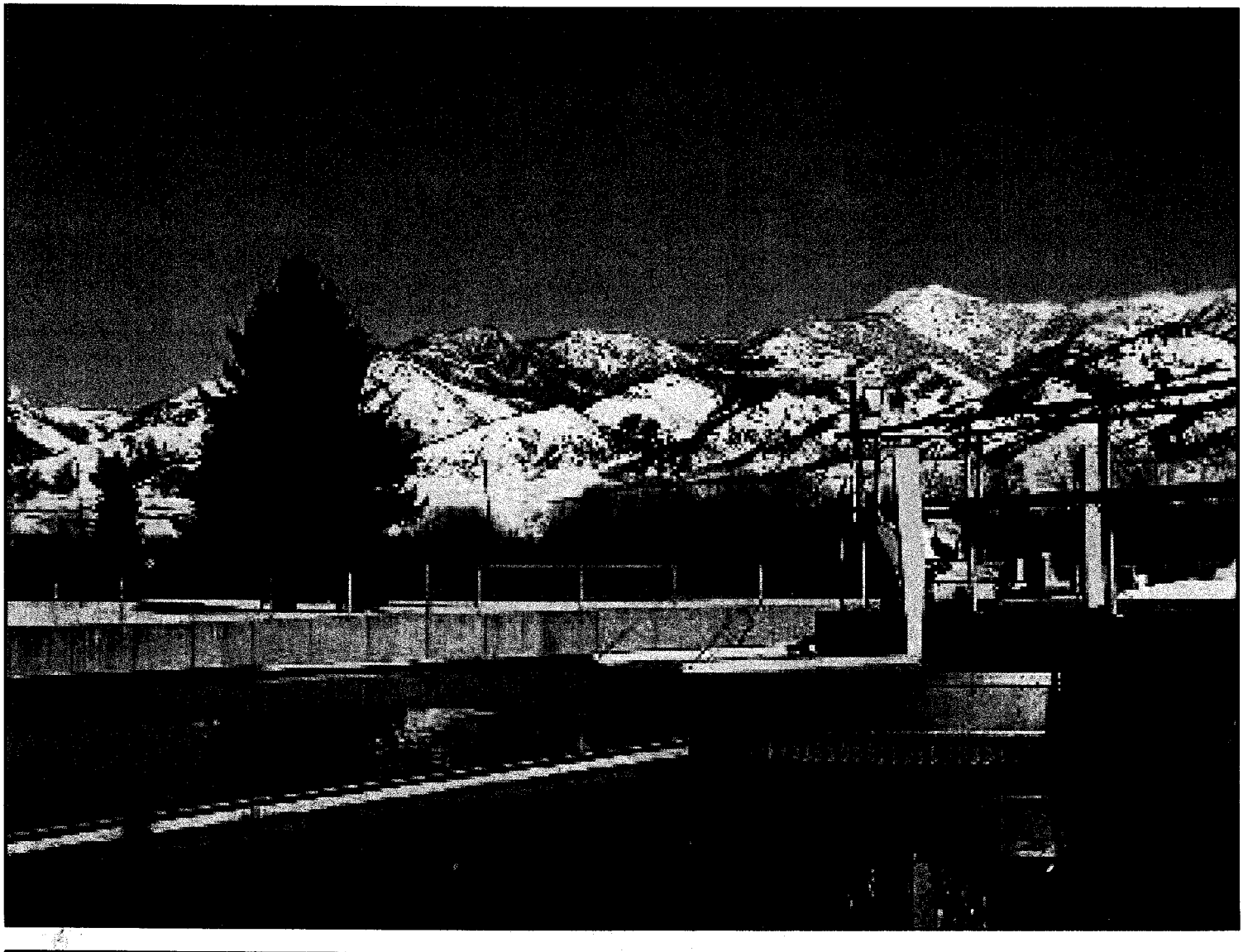
Montana Rural Water Systems, Inc.
2010 Fall/Winter Edition



City of Bozeman's Water Reclamation Facility

Training, Technical Assistance, & Regulatory Information

ROBERT PECCIA & ASSOCIATES

An Employee Owned Company

CIVIL ENGINEERING | TRANSPORTATION | PLANNING | SURVEYING

For over 30 years, RPA has specialized in municipal water and wastewater system design, planning, funding and project management. RPA vigilantly tracks trends in technology to improve engineering design and productivity.

RPA

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STRUCTURES
ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES
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G.I.S.

RPA now has three Montana office locations:

Helena
P. O. Box 5653
825 Custer Avenue
Helena, Montana 59604
(406) 447-5000
Fax (406) 447-5036

Flathead Valley
P. O. Box 5100
102 Cooperative Way, Suite 300
Kalispell, Montana 59903
(406) 752-5025
Fax (406) 752-5024

Butte
Thornton Building
65 East Broadway
Butte, Montana 59701
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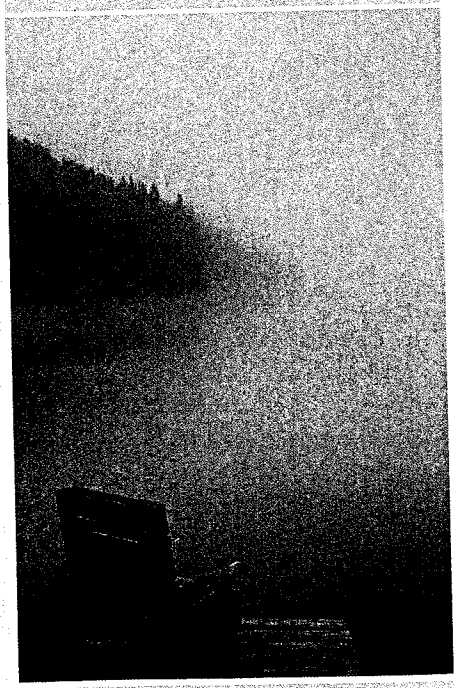
RPA's team of licensed professionals provide friendly, knowledgeable and prompt service!

- Project funding
- Surface and groundwater supply development
- Design of storage facilities
- Water treatment and distribution systems
- Fire protection
- Wastewater treatment and collection systems
- Facility planning and master planning
- Pump stations
- Control systems



www.rpa-mt.com

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Dave Jones	***President***
George Dengel	***Vice President***
Dennis Peppenger	***Treasurer***
Robert Moog	***Secretary***

MRWS Board Members

Greg Anderson	*City of Sidney*
Vincent Chappell	*Seeley Lake Water District*
Richard Payton	*Town of Rexford*
Jim Magone	*City of Deer Lodge*

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We Appreciate our Advertisers! (*Please Look at their Ads*)

The Bozeman Water Reclamation Facility
(Front Page)

What is it costing your system to stay in compliance with State and Federal EPA regulations, TMDL's requirements, and with your city growth and capacity policy?

The Bozeman Water Reclamation Facility (WRF) is an EPA award-winning facility and the city is proud of the work they do to protect their local environment. The cost for a new plant...**$54 million!**

The Bozeman Water Reclamation Facility currently has a capacity of 5.8 million gallons per day (MGD). Daily flows now average in excess of 5.0 MGD and the City is therefore making plans to expand the facility to ultimately accommodate wastewater flows of over 13 MGD.

The Bozeman WRF uses a treatment technology called conventional activated sludge to treat the City's domestic, commercial and industrial wastewater. This process utilizes microorganisms to biologically decompose and purify the wastes it receives from their community. Activated sludge is a very efficient process that results in the removal of over 97% of all pollutants. Over the next years the Bozeman WRF will be expanded and upgraded to enable their facility to begin removing biological nutrients (nitrogen and phosphorus) as well as the conventional pollutants it already removes. The City's new and expanded facility will utilize a process called Biological Nutrients Removal (BNR) technology to further enhance treatment and ensure even greater protection of their receiving stream, the East Gallatin River

National Director's Report – Dan Keil

NRWA Facts

The National Rural Water Association, through its state affiliates, is the largest water and wastewater utility membership organization in the nation representing over 26,696 public water and wastewater utilities. While membership includes utilities of all sizes, they primarily service populations of 10,000 or less and comprise 94% of the public water systems in America.

RURAL WATER IS:

- The trainer of the water industry with its state affiliates training over 100,000 people annually. Since 1976 the National Rural Water Association has expanded to represent rural and small communities through 48 state affiliates with over 26,696 utility members. These public water and wastewater systems comprise 94% of the public water supplies in the nation. Rural Water training and technical assistance is widely credited as the backbone of compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act. Each state affiliate has a cadre of expertise to go onsite and assist utilities in all areas of operation, management, finance, and governance. These services are provided in part through the state of Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, Rural Utilities Service, the Farm Service Agency and Congressional Appropriations to Rural Water through the Environmental Protection Agency.

The National Rural Water Association is governed by one Board member from each of its state affiliates. As such, the organization is assured to stay in tune with rural and small system issues and needs. Each year these issues and needs are addressed at a national gathering that brings National VIPs and system personnel together; odd years this event is the H2O-XPO, which is co-located with the International Construction Underground Utility Exposition, and even years is the National Rural Water Governance and Management Conference.

About this Newsletter

Montana H2O-NEWS-4-You is the official publication of Montana Rural Water Systems, Inc. It is published 2 times per year for distribution to representatives of rural and municipal water and wastewater systems. Articles, news items, and photographs are welcome. Submit to MRWS at 925 7th Avenue South, Great Falls, MT 59405. Statements of fact or opinion are the responsibility of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of Montana Rural Water Systems, Inc. This is a non-profit bulk mailing permit at Great Falls, MT.

Compilation, Editing, & Layout completed by John W. Camden & Staff.

From The Training Desk

By
Kevin Durocher
Training Specialist
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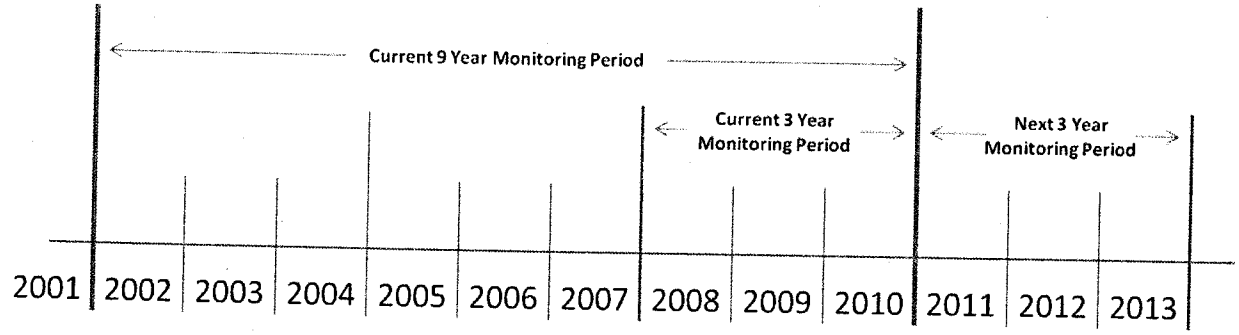
kdurocher@3riversdbs.net

***** End of 9 Year Sampling Period Approaching Fast!! *****

Have you checked your monitoring schedule to see if you are current on all of your systems sampling? 2010 is a key year for monitoring because it is the last year of the current 9 monitoring period, as well as being the last year of the current 3 year cycle. What does this mean to you as an operator? This means that any contaminant that has a 9 year or 3 year schedule sampling requirement, and has not yet been sampled during their respective 9 year or 3 year period, must be sampled before the end of the year. (See sampling period illustration) The labs tend to get very busy at the end of a normal year, and I've been told that there was a huge overload of sampling done at the end of 2007, which was the end of the last 3 year monitoring period. Some of those samples did not get analyzed in time and systems received violations. We can only expect to have similar problems at the end of this year. I have been educating systems about this at various workshops over the years, and hopefully most of you have been keeping up with all of your sampling requirements, but if this article just saves a few of you from getting a violation, it will be well worth the time and effort to include in the newsletter.



So, what do you do if you're still confused about what you have to sample for? Well, there are several options; Montana Rural Water Systems, your lab, or DEQ, can all help you to determine if you have missed any required sampling. But time is running out. You don't want to wait until December to send in your samples. The sooner you get them in the better.

A Few Last Minute Notes.....

- If you have not signed up to get the training agendas by e-mail, please contact us to find out how.
- Don't forget that the MRWS Annual Conference is coming up in February!
- The training calendar for 2011 will be coming out soon. Browse through it and plan to attend some workshops. It's still early in the CEC Biennium, but it's better to get your credits now, so you don't get caught short when the deadline arrives.
- Enjoy the Holiday Season & Have a Happy New Year!!!

Resource Tools for Emergency Response Planning

Kristi Kline, USDA Source Water Protection Specialist

An emergency is defined as *a sudden and unexpected situation requiring a prompt action.* Advance planning to respond to an emergency helps to ensure that a prompt action will occur. The **Source Water Protection planning process** includes preparing, coordinating and communicating for emergencies.

This past year, a variety of emergencies, varying from flooding situations to security breaches of PWS property, tested several public utilities' ability to provide prompt action. As it is difficult to predict an emergency's timing and occurrence, it is possible to plan and coordinate an action plan.

Emergency response planning will be specific to each Public Water System. **Equipment resources** are a vital tool in emergency planning as it usually requires more than one to respond to an emergency efficiently. As equipment resources top the list of any emergency response plan, people resources are another top priority. Just as you need more than one equipment resource, a **resource team** will provide a more efficient response. In addition to PWS staff, an emergency response team should include the **County Disaster and Emergency Services (DES) Coordinator** as a team member.

DES Coordinators, within the county health departments, manage and coordinate all emergency response planning within their county. They may also have connections and links for additional resources that could be beneficial in emergency situations to help communicate with your consumers. An example of their planning efforts include, conducting tabletop exercises to help improve emergency response to various situations.

Tabletop exercises are a chance to practice, test and improve emergency response plans and procedures. Finding out what works and what needs to be improved is always better done in practice than in a real-time emergency. For the systems that didn't have an emergency this past year, a tabletop exercise is an excellent chance to find out if your system is ready to provide a "prompt action". Coordinating resources within your county is an excellent way to achieve the best solutions.

"Preparedness and Team Building"

Drinking Water Emergency Sampling (DWES) Kit

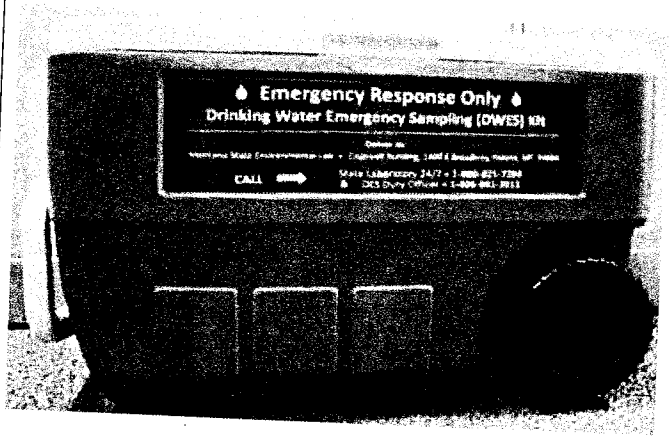
The Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) – Public Water Supply (PWS) and the Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS) - Laboratory Services Bureau (LSB) have developed a Drinking Water Emergency Sampling (DWES) Kit that can be used during an emergency to sample for unknown contaminants that may have been introduced into a drinking water system. The DWES kits contain instructions, containers, and some personal protective equipment (PPE) necessary to collect samples from a drinking water facility during a suspected or credible threat event. (NOTE: Always consult with the local authorities and professionals before entering an unknown or potentially hazardous environment.) These 110 DWES kits will be located at all county health departments, public water supplies (PWS) over 3300 in population, DEQ Public Water Supply Offices, Regional Hazmat Teams, 83rd National Guard Civil Support Team, and as well at the DPHHS State Laboratory. DEQ and DPHHS are continuing to make presentations about these kits at various trainings and meetings. The agencies are excited about the increased response capability these pre-positioned DWES kits provide and look forward to building stronger relationships with and in the first responder community. Special thanks needs to go to Montana Rural Water Systems for graciously offering to assist in getting the kits dispensed to the water systems that are 3300+ in population. If you have any questions or would like further information please contact:

Dusti Lowndes

DEQ Public Water Supply
Security and Emergency Preparedness Coordinator
406-755-8976
dlowndes@mt.gov

Joel Felix

DPHHS State Environmental Lab
Chemical Terrorism Lab Coordinator
406-444-4115
jfelix@mt.gov



BENEFITS of the DWES Kit:

Collection of a complete sample set is more likely to be achieved through the use of pre-designed kits
Complete kit ready to go, no delay in obtaining bottles
Expedited sampling and transport
STANDARDIZED – All players on the same page
Instructions and Chain of Custody Included with each DWES Kit
Multiple disciplines will be trained about the kit
Geographically distributed for rapid access
Promotes communication/consultation with the Laboratory and DEQ during an event

Registration Form: Request for MRWS Electronic Mailing

Note: This is the recommended method of receiving training notices. You will receive them faster, and you will be helping MRWS to save money on printing and mailing costs. More than 1 individual from a system may register their e-mail address. Thank You for your support of MRWS.

Name: _____

Water System Name: _____

PWSID#: MT000 _____.

Position: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Zip Code (Region) _____

This form may be faxed or mailed to MRWS office, or scan and e-mail to mrws@att.net

Registration Form: Request for MRWS Postal Mailing

Note: If your status changes and you are able to receive e-mail notifications, please notify the MRWS office by filling out the "Request for MRWS Electronic Mailing" form.

Name: _____

Position: _____

Water System Name: _____

Postal Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: ____ Zip: _____

PWSID#: MT000 _____.

This form may be faxed or mailed in to the MRWS Office.

MONTANA
Department of Public Health & Human Services

Montana Department of
Environmental Quality

"Drinking Water Emergency Sampling (DWES) Kits"

1. **DO NOT OPEN** this kit unless you are responding to and sampling a drinking water system due to an emergency event.

If you intend to use this kit notify both of the following numbers for assistance:

1. 24/7 DPHHS State Lab at **1-800-821-7284**
2. DEQ PWS at **1-406-444-4400** (or after hours with DES at 406- 841-3911)

2. USES: This DWES kit is to be used for collecting necessary samples from a drinking water facility during a suspected or credible threat event. These samples will help determine unknown contaminants that may be in the water supply. This is not for compliance and is only a preliminary attempt to determine the risk to public health. Necessary precautions or limitations of the water system should be practiced while the samples are being analyzed and until results are known. These kits will be located at all county health departments, public water supplies over 3300 in population, DEQ Public Water Supply Offices, Hazmat teams, National Guard Civil Support Team, and DPHHS State Lab.

3. PLANNING AND ASSESSMENT TOOLS: Refer to the documents which are accompanying this kit for assistance in site safety and evaluation and to assist in properly responding to an unknown contaminant threat event at a water system.

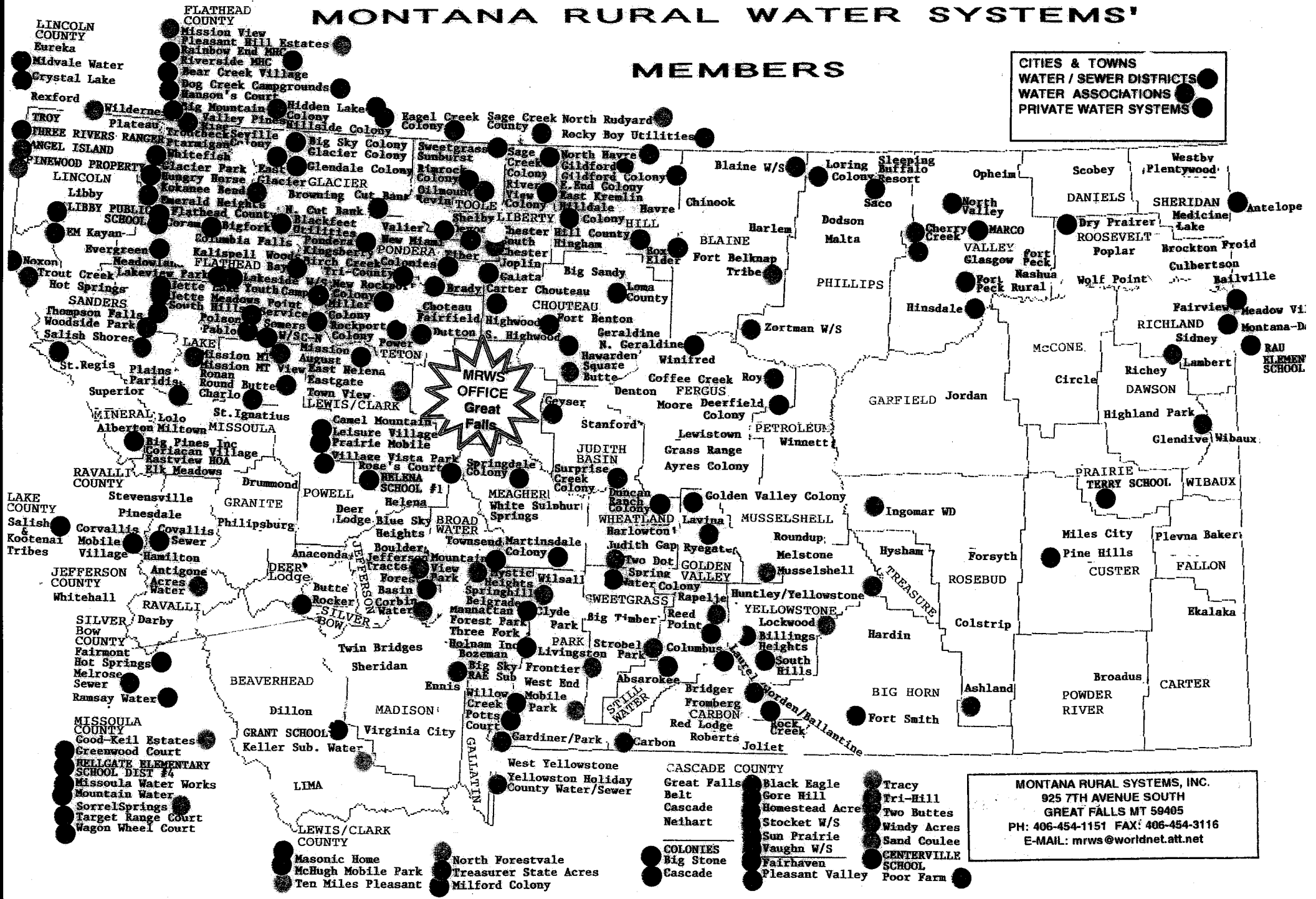
"Sampling Guidance for Unknown Contaminants in Drinking Water" (EPA-817-5-0-003)
"Sampling Guide for First Responders to Drinking Water Contamination Threats and Incidents" by New England Water Works Association and EPA
Example of Sampling Protocols (that are inside cooler)
Example of Chain of Custody Form (that is inside cooler)

4. RESPONSE CONSIDERATIONS: Personal and site safety, evaluations and field analysis, and personal protective equipment should be considered and used. Please note the site and field analysis information on the lab paper work that will accompany the samples. For further information, refer to the reference material. Hazmat teams and law enforcement may need to be consulted and control the site with the water system's assistance.

(continued on page 11)

MONTANA RURAL WATER SYSTEMS'

MEMBERS



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